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25

26 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
27
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
28
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

29 FACETEC, INC., a Delaware corporation,
30 Plaintiff,

31 v.
32 JUMIO CORPORATION, a Delaware
33 corporation,

34 Defendant,
35 and
36 IPROOV, LTD., a United Kingdom limited
37 company,

38 Defendant-Intervenor.

39 AND RELATED COUNTERCLAIMS.

40 Case No. 3:24-cv-03623-RFL
41 Hon. Rita F. Lin

42 **NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO**
43 **DISQUALIFY MORRISON & FOERSTER**
44 **LLP AS COUNSEL FOR JUMIO**
45 **CORPORATION; MEMORANDUM OF**
46 **POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

47 **[DECLARATION OF NATHANIEL L.**
48 **DILGER AND PROPOSED ORDER**
49 **SUBMITTED CONCURRENTLY**
50 **HEREWITH]**

51 Date: July 1, 2025
52 Time: 10:00 a.m.
53 Crtrm: 15, 18th Floor

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1 **TO THE COURT AND ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD**
 2 **HEREIN:**

3 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on July 1, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the
 4 matter may be heard before the Honorable Rita F. Lin in Courtroom 15 of the above captioned
 5 court located at 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102, Plaintiff and Counter-
 6 Defendant FaceTec, Inc. will and hereby does move for an order disqualifying the law firm of
 7 Morrison & Foerster LLP from representing Jumio Corporation (“Jumio”) in this action, and
 8 related relief.

9 Specifically, this Motion seeks an order:

10 1. That Morrison & Foerster LLP, and all attorneys of that firm, be disqualified from
 11 representing Jumio in this case;

12 2. That all attorneys from Morrison & Foerster LLP and Perkins Coie LLP be ordered
 13 to immediately withdraw as counsel of record in this case; and

14 3. That Jumio appear through new counsel by an appropriate date certain, or to file a
 15 written explanation by that date, as to why new counsel could not be retained by the deadline
 16 despite the exercise of diligence; and

17 4. That Perkins Coie LLP and Morrison & Foerster be ordered not to collaborate with
 18 Jumio’s new counsel in relation to this litigation, including by providing any non-public work
 19 product or information to such counsel.

20 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

21 **I. INTRODUCTION**

22 The Court disqualifyed FaceTec’s former counsel, Perkins Coie LLP, from representing
 23 Jumio in this matter. The Court ordered that Jumio “appear through *new* counsel. (ECF No. 94, p.
 24 15 (emphasis added).) But Jumio has not complied with either the letter or spirit of the Court’s
 25 order. Instead of new counsel, Morrison & Foerster has appeared to *again* represent Jumio in this
 26 matter, even though Morrison & Foerster was previously co-counsel of record with the Perkins
 27 firm and is therefore subject to the same concerns that led to the disqualification of Perkins.
 28 Meanwhile, the Perkins attorneys have not withdrawn as counsel of record, so Perkins and

1 Morrison & Foerster are again co-counsel. Further—and very worryingly—it appears evident that
 2 Perkins intends to share—or has already shared—non-public work product with Morrison &
 3 Foerster, even though Perkins itself stated at the disqualification hearing that this would be
 4 improper, and even though the Court indicated the same. These developments now place FaceTec
 5 in the unfortunate position of again having to seek protection from the Court. For reasons
 6 explained in more detail below, the Court should disqualify Morrison & Foerster from
 7 representing Jumio in this case and should prohibit both Perkins and Morrison & Foerster from
 8 sharing non-public work product and information about the case with Jumio’s new counsel.

9 The Court disqualified Perkins because its prior representation of FaceTec involved
 10 matters “substantially related” to this litigation and, through its work on those matters, Perkins
 11 obtained “confidential [FaceTec] information that may be material to the subject matter of this
 12 litigation.” (ECF No. 94, p. 13.) As the Court noted, access to FaceTec’s confidential information
 13 “effectively provided Perkins with a head start in this litigation” and made Perkins “better situated
 14 to advocate for Jumio.” (*Id.* at pp. 11-12.) To prevent this obvious unfairness to FaceTec, the
 15 Court found disqualification to be the only proper remedy. Jumio is effectively attempting to
 16 undermine this remedy, however, by attempting to use the Perkins firm’s former co-counsel
 17 instead of “new” counsel and by allowing Perkins to share with Morrison & Foerster the tainted
 18 work product that all parties and the Court have already agreed could not be shared following
 19 disqualification. As explained further below, the same concerns that led to the disqualification of
 20 Perkins apply to Morrison & Foerster as well. Far from being “new” counsel as ordered by the
 21 Court, Morrison & Foerster has *already* appeared in this case as counsel for Jumio, and Morrison
 22 & Foerster was co-counsel with the now-disqualified Perkins firm for approximately two months
 23 prior to Morrison & Foerster’s withdrawal. And now, with its reappearance in this matter
 24 Morrison & Foerster has resumed its role as co-counsel with the Perkins firm, which, despite this
 25 Court’s disqualification order *still* has not withdrawn from its representation of Jumio in this
 26 matter. Attempting to revert to Jumio’s former counsel and Perkins’s former and current co-
 27 counsel does not comply with either the letter or the spirit of the Court’s order to obtain “new”
 28 replacement counsel. Even apart from Jumio’s failure to comply with the express language of the

1 Court's order, the same concerns that led to the vicarious disqualification of the entire Perkins firm
 2 apply with equal weight to Morrison & Foerster as Perkin's former and current co-counsel. While
 3 California authority on this issue is (not surprisingly) sparse, several California courts have
 4 considered the question of "vicarious disqualification" of co-counsel and have found **no** reasoned
 5 distinction between vicariously disqualifying the entirety of a tainted attorneys' firm as compared
 6 to vicariously disqualifying co-counsel firms. The same considerations that required
 7 disqualification of the entire Perkins firm mandate disqualification of its co-counsel. Allowing
 8 Morrison & Foerster to reappear as counsel for Jumio would result in the same risk of misuse of
 9 FaceTec's previously-shared confidential information to gain an unfair "head start" in this
 10 litigation. (ECF No. 94, pp. 11-13.) And this is true notwithstanding any subjective, self-serving,
 11 and tightly-hedged assertion by Morrison & Foerster that it did not substantively discuss this
 12 litigation with Perkins "prior to withdrawing." Not only does Morrison & Foerster's statement
 13 leave open the probability that Morrison & Foerster has discussed this case with Perkins or been
 14 provided with Perkins' internal work product *after* the date of Morrison & Foerster's initial
 15 withdrawal, but California courts have applied an "irrebuttable presumption" that confidential
 16 information has been shared. Accordingly, FaceTec need not shoulder the usually-impossible
 17 burden of proving that opposing counsel actually shared confidential information to justify
 18 disqualifying Morrison & Foerster.

19 At the hearing on FaceTec's motion to disqualify the Perkins firm, Jumio, FaceTec, and
 20 the Court all agreed that disqualification of Perkins would mean, not only that Perkins could not
 21 continue to represent Jumio, but also that Perkins could not share its non-public work product
 22 with, or otherwise provide counsel to, Jumio's replacement counsel. But Perkins now ignores its
 23 representations to the Court and has stated its intention to do exactly what it represented to the
 24 Court and FaceTec that it could not. Reversing course from the disqualification hearing, Perkins
 25 has now stated that it intends to coordinate with replacement counsel by providing Morrison &
 26 Foerster with attorney work product such as draft, non-public and unfiled disclosures and
 27 declarations, prior art search results, and other internal Perkins materials that are likely to reflect
 28 the very "head start" identified by the Court and contain "fruit of the poisonous tree" that led to

1 Perkins' disqualification. Worse, it is unclear from the ambiguous and carefully parsed
 2 representations of both Perkins and Morrison & Foerster about their communications whether
 3 such improper sharing has *already* occurred. Because of Perkins' disqualification, it should not be
 4 doing *any* further work on this matter, including *any* work coordinating with replacement counsel,
 5 and it should certainly not be providing replacement counsel with non-public materials such as
 6 Perkins' unfiled work product. The insistence of Perkins and Morrison & Foerster on such
 7 improper sharing of information has seriously exacerbated the very same problems and unfairness
 8 to FaceTec that led to Perkins' disqualification in the first place.

9 FaceTec thus requests that the Court confirm that its disqualification of the Perkins firm
 10 extends also to Perkins' former and present co-counsel, Morrison & Foerster. The Court should
 11 also make clear that, regardless of who Jumio obtains as new counsel, Perkins and Morrison &
 12 Foerster cannot participate in any fashion in coordinating with new counsel, including providing
 13 any internal or work product materials, discussing the case, or otherwise communicating with new
 14 counsel regarding the case. And while it is hard to understand the necessity for this request, the
 15 Court should order that Perkins attorneys must immediately withdraw as counsel of record in this
 16 matter. As the Court and FaceTec noted during the disqualification hearing, new counsel has
 17 ready access to the publicly filed materials and can obtain such materials without the need to
 18 communicate with or otherwise coordinate with disqualified and withdrawn counsel.

19 **II. DISCUSSION**

20 **A. Morrison & Foerster Is Not “New” Counsel, Having Previously Represented
 21 Jumio in this Litigation, Including Having Previously Been and Presently
 22 Being Co-Counsel of Record with the Disqualified Perkins Firm.**

23 In the Court's disqualification order, the Court directed that “Jumio is ordered to appear
 24 through new counsel by April 30, 2025, or to file a written explanation by that date as to why new
 25 counsel could not be retained by the deadline despite the exercise of diligence.” (ECF No. 94,
 26 p. 15.) But Morrison & Foerster—Jumio's prior counsel and co-counsel with Perkins—is simply
 27 not “new” counsel. Morrison & Foerster previously appeared as counsel for Jumio in this *very*
 28 *same* matter—a role it held for at least approximately two months, during which time it acted as

1 co-counsel with Perkins. This included acting as co-counsel with Perkins through at least the
 2 planning and drafting of Jumio's Answer and Counterclaims.

3 In late June 2024, Morrison & Foerster partner Kenneth Kuwayti—presently Jumio's lead
 4 counsel in this case, who was then lead counsel for Jumio in an ongoing arbitration with
 5 FaceTec—approached FaceTec's lead counsel in this litigation, Nate Dilger, to discuss FaceTec's
 6 recently-filed patent infringement complaint against Jumio. (Dilger Decl. at ¶ 2.) During his
 7 conversation with Mr. Dilger, Mr. Kuwayti indicated that he was representing Jumio in this
 8 litigation for at least the purpose of requesting an extension of time to answer FaceTec's
 9 complaint. (*Id.*) Mr. Kuwayti further indicated that Morrison & Foerster might be representing
 10 Jumio for all purposes in this litigation, but that he was awaiting a decision from Jumio on that
 11 issue. (*Id.*) Mr. Dilger agreed to Mr. Kuwayti's request for an extension. (*Id.*)

12 Kenneth Kuwayti of Morrison & Foerster thereafter appeared as counsel for Jumio in this
 13 case on July 9, 2024. (ECF No. 14.) This was evidently done during the same period in which
 14 Perkins had already started its extensive work related to this matter and the related *inter partes*
 15 review petitions. (See ECF No. 67-1 (Declaration of Grant Kinsel at ¶ 3 ("Since first being
 16 retained in this matter on behalf of Jumio, . . . Perkins Coie has invested more than 2,000 hours in
 17 the various matters associated with FaceTec's infringement allegations.")); *see also* ECF No. 70-19
 18 (Declaration of Grant Kinsel at ¶ 3-5 ("Since July 2024, I have billed more than 200 hours
 19 supervising the various FaceTec/Jumio matters . . . to adequately defend Jumio in this matter . . .
 20 this team has invested more than 900 hours. . . [and] lawyers on our PTAB team have
 21 collectively spent nearly 900 hours.").) Jumio thereafter filed a Certificate of Interested Entities
 22 and an amended version thereof on August 7 and 9, 2024. (ECF Nos. 16 & 17.) On August 23,
 23 2024, Jumio filed its Answer and Counterclaims. (ECF No. 18.) Only thereafter did Morrison &
 24 Foerster file a Notice of Withdrawal. (ECF No. 20.)

25 Because Perkins *still* remains counsel of record, Morrison & Foerster's April 8, 2025,
 26 reappearance means that it is *again* acting as co-counsel with Perkins: despite the March 28, 2025,
 27 Order disqualifying the Perkins firm, it has yet to withdraw from this case. (See Dilger Decl. at ¶
 28 8; *see also* ECF Nos. 95, 96.) And as explained in detail in Section C below, there are strong

1 indications that, since its disqualification, Perkins has collaborated—and intends to continue
 2 collaborating—with Morrison & Foerster, including by sharing the same sorts of confidential
 3 work product that Perkins partner Grant Kinsel expressly represented to the Court (and the Court
 4 agreed) that Perkins could not share.

5 Having previously represented Jumio in this very litigation—during some of the same time
 6 Perkins Coie was doing so—Morrison & Foerster is not “new” counsel, and simply reappearing as
 7 Jumio’s counsel does not comport with the Court’s disqualification order. And as explained
 8 further below, this violation is not simply a technical one. Instead, Jumio’s attempt to slot in
 9 Morrison & Foerster raises precisely the same concerns and threatens precisely the same
 10 unfairness that led to the disqualification of Perkins Coie.

11 **B. As Co-Counsel with the Disqualified Perkins Firm, Morrison & Foerster Must
 12 Also Be Disqualified.**

13 Under California law, the same concerns that required the disqualification of the entire
 14 Perkins firm also require the disqualification of its co-counsel, Morrison & Foerster. This is
 15 because “*presuming an attorney at one law firm has confidential information requires making
 16 the same presumption about another firm that is co-counsel with the tainted attorney.*”
 17 *Advanced Messaging Techs., Inc. v. Easylink Servs. Int'l Corp.*, 913 F. Supp. 2d 900, 909 (C.D.
 18 Cal. 2012) (emphasis added). Importantly, that presumption is “*irrebuttable*.” *Id.* at 912 (emphasis
 19 added); compare *Kirk v. First American Title Ins. Co.*, 183 Cal. App. 4th 776, 801 (2010) (noting
 20 that the presumption may be refuted with evidence of a sufficient ethical screen—which is not
 21 present here). Given this irrebuttable presumption, self-serving statements from Morrison &
 22 Foerster that it did not substantively communicate with Perkins Coie simply don’t matter, even
 23 apart from the narrow scope and subjective phrasing of its denial.

24 In *Advanced Messaging*, the court explained the reasoning behind the irrebuttable
 25 presumption that attorneys are presumed to have received confidential information in the
 26 possession of their co-counsel. “Normally, an attorney’s conflict is imputed to the law firm as a
 27 whole on the rationale that attorneys, working together and practicing law in a professional
 28 association, share each other’s, and their clients’, confidential information.” *Id.* at 910 (quoting

1 *City & Cty. of S.F. v. Cobra Sols., Inc.*, 38 Cal. 4th 839, 847 (2006)). Where two firms work as co-
 2 counsel, the same rationale applies that attorneys working together—whether within a firm or as
 3 co-counsel—share each other’s and their clients’ confidential information.

4 The Court here applied this very presumption in disqualifying not only Perkins partner
 5 Lowell Ness but also the entire Perkins firm. As explained in the Court’s Order disqualifying the
 6 firm, in the course of its prior representation of FaceTec, Perkins attorneys would have been
 7 “required to learn how FaceTec’s ZoOm product worked, and what specific features made it
 8 unique, innovative, and profitable,” “had access to confidential information about the reasons
 9 behind the commercial success of FaceTec’s product,” and “would be expected to have regularly
 10 received information about FaceTec’s views about what separated ZoOm from prior art systems at
 11 the time.” (ECF No. 94, pp. 11-12.) The Court found that, “based on the nature of Perkins’
 12 representation, there runs a significant risk that the firm received confidential information that may
 13 be material to the subject matter of this litigation.” (*Id.* at p.13.)

14 This same presumption applies to Perkins Coie’s prior and current co-counsel, Morrison &
 15 Foerster. As co-counsel with Perkins during critical phases of this case—including currently as
 16 well as during the development of Jumio’s defenses, counterclaims, and strategies related
 17 thereto—Morrison & Foerster is presumed to have the same confidential information as Perkins
 18 and must also be disqualified.

19 Other California courts have cited and followed *Advanced Messaging* in disqualifying an
 20 attorney based on the presumption imputing a co-counsel’s conflict to him or her. In *Pound*,
 21 plaintiff’s co-counsel Jones was disqualified where Jones consulted once with the conflicted
 22 counsel, Bradley, and where Bradley and Jones met with the plaintiffs “a few times.” *Pound v.*
 23 *DeMera DeMera Cameron*, 135 Cal. App. 4th 70, 74 (2005). Bradley had been disqualified by
 24 virtue of a single one-hour consultation with defendant’s counsel three years prior, in which
 25 Bradley and defendant’s counsel had discussed “topics properly described as attorney work
 26 product.” *Id.* at 74. Jones argued that he should not be disqualified vicariously, asserting that—as
 27 Morrison & Foerster is expected to assert here—Bradley did not tell Jones “of any facts or legal
 28 issues learned from [the defendant] or any other source.” *Id.* The court, however, rejected Jones’s

1 arguments and confirmed the need to also disqualify co-counsel to protect client confidences,
 2 explaining, “[t]he need to maintain client confidences, as well as our obligation to maintain public
 3 confidence in the legal profession and the judiciary, would be defeated if we permitted [co-
 4 counsel]’s continued representation of plaintiffs.” *Id.* at 78. “The only effective method to protect
 5 defendants’ confidences from the possibility of inadvertent disclosure is also to disqualify [co-
 6 counsel]. . . . it is impossible to conceive a justification for not disqualifying [co-counsel] when he
 7 consulted with [conflicted counsel], an attorney who obtained the opponent’s confidences, even if
 8 [conflicted counsel] never associated into the case.” *Id.* The same reasoning applies here and
 9 prohibits Perkins Coie’s former co-counsel Morrison & Foerster from stepping back into this case
 10 as “new” counsel, regardless of any self-serving claim as to what it did or did not discuss with the
 11 Perkins firm.

12 As the foregoing cases illustrate, FaceTec need not prove an actual exchange of
 13 confidential information between Perkins and Morrison & Foerster to justify disqualification.
 14 Holding otherwise would indeed impose on FaceTec the impossible task of proving what
 15 information and communications has been exchanged between opposing counsel—internal
 16 information that is obviously unavailable to FaceTec. Accordingly, the court in *Pound* did not
 17 attempt to establish the specifics of what was exchanged between Bradley and Jones, but rather
 18 relied on the fact that a consultation had occurred between the conflicted counsel and co-counsel,
 19 which the court found sufficient to warrant disqualification. *Id.* at 78-79.

20 The evolution of California law to embrace the Vicarious Disqualification Rule as an
 21 irrebuttable presumption has been based on fundamental concepts of fairness as well as the need to
 22 maintain public confidence in the legal profession and the judiciary, as reflected in *Pound* and like
 23 rulings. Otherwise, clients would be put in the impossible position in which they have no realistic
 24 way of proving what communications and documents the disqualified counsel for an opposing
 25 party have shared behind the scenes with their co-counsel, which creates the unfair risk and
 26 improper appearance of the client’s confidential information being used to its disadvantage by
 27 former counsel. This “Vicarious Disqualification Rule” has been applied regularly to co-counsel
 28 by California state courts and federal courts in the Ninth Circuit. For example, in *Beltran*, co-

1 counsel was vicariously disqualified based on their collaboration with the conflicted counsel.
 2 *Beltran v. Avon Products, Inc.*, 867 F. Supp. 2d 1068, 1084 (C.D. Cal. 2012). Specifically, two of
 3 the attorneys at the co-counsel firm—analogously to what occurred here—“collaborated with
 4 [conflicted counsel] in the filing of the complaint.” *Id.* Based on this, the Court held that “[i]t is
 5 also reasonable to assume that the two law firms engaged in fairly extensive discussions about the
 6 case and Plaintiff’s litigation strategy before filing their complaint Even if the [co-counsel] X-
 7 Law Group **did not, in fact, acquire confidential information**, their involvement in the case
 8 would taint the appearance of probity and fairness of the proceedings.” *Id.* (emphasis added).

9 Similar facts exist here, with Perkins Coie and Morrison & Foerster both representing
 10 Jumio and presumably collaborating on the preparation of and filing of Jumio’s Answer and
 11 Counterclaims in this action. As noted in *Beltran*, it is both reasonable and appropriate to presume
 12 that Perkins and Morrison & Foerster engaged in discussions about the case and—under the
 13 Vicarious Disqualification Rule—shared the same confidential FaceTec information that required
 14 the disqualification of Perkins Coie. Morrison & Foerster should therefore also be disqualified.

15 As other California courts have noted, disqualifying co-counsel under circumstances like
 16 these is the only effective method to protect a former client like FaceTec’s confidential
 17 information from the possibility of inadvertent disclosure. *Pound*, 135 Cal. App. 4th at 78 (“the
 18 only effective method to protect [client] confidences from the possibility of inadvertent disclosure
 19 is also to disqualify [co-counsel].”); *see also Beltran*, 867 F.Supp.2d at 1084 (disqualifying co-
 20 counsel where “their involvement in the case would taint the appearance of probity and fairness of
 21 the proceedings.”). Accordingly, under *Advanced Messaging*, *Pound*, and *Beltran*, Morrison &
 22 Foerster cannot be the “new” counsel that this Court intended when it entered the Order
 23 disqualifying Perkins and must instead be disqualified.

24 FaceTec anticipates that Morrison & Foerster may cite a line of Northern District of
 25 California cases that relied on an out-of-date view of California law. *See Oracle Am. Inc. v.*
 26 *Innovative Tech. Distrib., LLC*, 2011 WL 2940313, at *5 (N.D. Cal. July 20, 2011); *Canatella v.*
 27 *Krieg, Keller, Sloan, Reilley & Roman LLP*, No. C 11-05535 WHA, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS
 28 33606, 2012 WL 847493, at *2 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 13, 2012); *Love v. Permanente Med. Grp.*, 2013

1 WL 5273213, at *6 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 18, 2013); *Haagen-Dazs Co., Inc. v. Perche No! Gelato, Inc.*,
 2 639 F. Supp. 282 (1986). But in *Oracle*, *Canatella*, and *Love*, the courts relied on an outdated
 3 view of California law that had been adopted in *In re Airport Car Rental Antitrust Litig.*, 470 F.
 4 Supp. 495, 506 (N.D. Cal. 1979), a case from 1979, before the California Court of Appeal
 5 weighed in in *Pound v. DeMera DeMera Cameron*, 135 Cal. App. 4th 70, 74 (2005). The holding
 6 in *In Re Airport Car Rental* has never been adopted by the California Supreme Court nor any
 7 California appellate court. Instead, both state and federal courts have since rejected its holding as
 8 being inconsistent with the more recent decision in *Pound*. *See, e.g., Advanced Messaging*, 913 F.
 9 Supp. at 910 (rejecting the *In Re Airport Car Rental* line of cases for “not consider[ing] applicable
 10 California law” because they “rely heavily on *Airport Car*, which was decided in 1979” and for
 11 not considering *Pound*); *Roberts v. Bisno*, 2007 Cal. Super. LEXIS 159, *10 (Aug. 31, 2007)
 12 (“Since *In Re Airport Car Rental* was decided, however, California state court cases examining the
 13 issue have reached a different result.”). Simply put, while there are two lines of case law on the
 14 issue of whether an attorney is presumed to have received confidential information from tainted
 15 co-counsel, FaceTec’s cited cases relies on the current view of disqualification found in *Pound*, a
 16 2005 California appellate decision.

17 Policy factors further militate towards this Court’s adoption of the view of disqualification
 18 found in *Pound*. Unlike the *In Re Airport Car Rental* line of cases, the view of disqualification
 19 expressed by the *Pound* court and like rulings abides by the mandates issued by the California
 20 Supreme Court in seminal cases that address the considerations that must be prioritized when
 21 adjudicating on motions to disqualify: “The paramount concern **must** be to preserve public trust in
 22 the scrupulous administration of justice and the integrity of the bar. The important right to counsel
 23 of one’s choice **must** yield to ethical considerations that affect the fundamental principles of our
 24 judicial process.” *People ex rel. Dept. of Corps. v. SpeeDee Oil Change Systems, Inc.*, 20 Cal. 4th
 25 1135, 1145 (1999) (emphasis added); *see also Comden v. Sup. Ct. (Doris Day Distrib. Co.)*, 20
 26 Cal. 3d 906, 914-915 (1978) (holding that a client’s right to be represented by counsel of choice
 27 must yield to considerations of ethics that affect the integrity of the judicial process). Safeguarding
 28

1 FaceTec's confidences is paramount, and the only way to ensure the preservation of the same is to
 2 disqualify Morrison & Foerster.

3 Morrison & Foerster might also rely on *Kirk v. First American Title Ins. Co.*, 183 Cal.
 4 App. 4th at 801, to argue that the presumption is rebuttable; but any such argument fails. The
 5 court in *Kirk* held merely that the presumption could be refuted with an ethical screen that is
 6 "sufficient to meet its purpose: satisfying the trial court that the tainted attorney has not had and
 7 will not have any involvement with, or communication concerning, the litigation that would
 8 support a reasonable inference that confidential information was or will be disclosed." *Id.* at 814;
 9 *see also* California Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 1.10(a)(2)(ii). *Kirk* cannot apply here,
 10 were this Court previously held that Perkins' screen "cannot cure the problem." (ECF 94, p. 13.)
 11 And Perkins is not currently sequestered by an ethical screen—nor would any ethical screen
 12 placed *ex post facto* be sufficient to address the time Morrison & Foerster already spent as
 13 Perkins' co-counsel—rendering *Kirk* inapposite. The Court should apply the law as set forth in
 14 *Pound* and confirm that Morrison & Foerster cannot step into the shoes of its conflicted former co-
 15 counsel dressed as "new" counsel.

16 **C. Regardless of Who Jumio Obtains as New Counsel, Neither Perkins nor**
 17 **Morrison & Foerster Can Collaborate with New Counsel.**

18 Despite previously representing to the Court that an order disqualifying Perkins would
 19 result in Perkins being unable to "coordinate with replacement counsel," Perkins has now stated its
 20 intention to do exactly what it told the Court that it could not by providing replacement counsel
 21 with attorney work product, thus threatening to perpetuate the unfairness that its ethical failures
 22 have imposed on its former client. Courts confirm that disqualified counsel in possession of client
 23 confidences are prohibited from interacting with new counsel in any way. Naturally, this
 24 prohibition includes, without limitation, providing new counsel with internal work product. *See*
 25 *Advanced Messaging Technologies*, 913 F. Supp. 2d at 913. Perkins (and now Morrison &
 26 Foerster) should be ordered to stop. At the hearing on FaceTec's motion to disqualify Perkins,
 27 Perkins' attorney Grant Kinsel represented to the Court plainly (and correctly) that disqualification
 28

1 of Perkins would result in the firm's being prohibited from coordinating with replacement counsel
 2 or providing them with internal work product:

3 *[T]he choices that we made in identifying prior art, identifying claim construction
 4 positions, understanding Jumio's products, all of that is lost if we are disqualified.*

5 . . . And so, once—if the Court were to disqualify us, the information, *the ability to
 6 coordinate with replacement counsel for example, would all be lost* and so, all of
 7 that would be lost to Jumio.

8 (Dilger Decl. at Ex. B (February 11, 2025, Hearing Tr. at 44:15-45:2) (emphasis added).)

9 The Court confirmed the correctness of Mr. Kinsel's conclusion: "Well, the argument is if
 10 they have to get new counsel, then that counsel has to start from zero and learn all of that . . .
 11 because they can't use the information that Perkins developed" and "they wouldn't have all of the
 12 other background that maybe Perkins has developed that is not reflected in the final work product .
 13 . . ." (*Id.* at 48:4-9, 21-24.) Jumio, FaceTec, and the Court thus *all* agreed that, if disqualification
 14 were ordered, Perkins would not only be unable to further represent Jumio but would also be
 15 unable to share work product with, or otherwise provide counsel to, Jumio's replacement counsel.

16 Despite this, Perkins and Morrison & Foerster appear to be collaborating to share tainted
 17 internal work product amongst themselves. This not only runs contrary to Perkins' statements to
 18 the Court at the disqualification hearing and the Court's confirmation of this prohibition, but also
 19 violates the Court's disqualification order, under which Perkins is disqualified and should not be
 20 doing *any* legal work on this case, whatsoever. This includes any legal work involving
 21 consultation of replacement counsel and certainly includes sharing tainted internal work product
 22 with any such counsel.

23 Following the order disqualifying Perkins, FaceTec corresponded with Perkins and
 24 Morrison & Foerster related to Perkins' intent to provide Morrison & Foerster with tainted internal
 25 work product and other materials related to this litigation, and FaceTec's objections thereto. On
 26 April 4, 2025, FaceTec's counsel emailed Mr. Kinsel to ask that Perkins confirm that it would "not
 27 disclose, share, or discuss any confidential information or attorney work product or otherwise
 28 impermissibly coordinate with Jumio's replacement litigation counsel." (See Dilger Decl. at ¶ 4,
 Ex. C.) In response, Mr. Kinsel refused to agree with FaceTec's request and instead stated that

1 Perkins intended to provide replacement counsel with internal drafts of litigation documents, such
 2 as “claim-construction disclosures—including expert witness declaration(s)—that Jumio **was**
 3 **prepared to exchange** with FaceTec”, confidential work product provided to Perkins by third-
 4 party vendors (“Prior art searches conducted by third party prior art search firms”), and “[w]ork
 5 product/attorney-client privileged materials related exclusively to analysis of Jumio’s products.”
 6 (*Id.* at ¶ 5, Ex. D (emphasis added).) FaceTec’s counsel responded on April 16, 2025 to object to
 7 Perkins’s position and intent to collaborate with Morrison & Foerster: “the Court’s
 8 disqualification order in no way opened the door for Perkins to continue its representation of
 9 Jumio, including by working with Jumio’s replacement counsel in **any** manner, much less the
 10 manner you’ve suggested in your email.” (*Id.* at ¶ 6, Ex. E.)

11 While Mr. Kinsel did not further respond to FaceTec, on April 22, 2025, Mr. Kuwayti of
 12 Morrison & Foerster emailed FaceTec’s counsel to assert that “Morrison and Jumio are committed
 13 to an orderly transition of counsel, and to ensuring that Morrison receives no information from
 14 Perkins potentially tainted by Perkins’ conflict of interest” and that “Morrison had no substantive
 15 involvement in litigating the case and no communications with Perkins **prior to withdrawing from**
 16 **the limited purpose appearance.**” (*Id.* at ¶ 7, Ex. F (emphasis added).) However, Mr. Kuwayti’s
 17 statements appear to be carefully crafted and intentionally ambiguous to address only the time
 18 frame prior to its August 26, 2024 withdrawal from this case—and conspicuously fail to confirm
 19 that Morrison & Foerster has not had any substantive involvement, communications, or received
 20 internal work product from Perkins since its initial withdrawal, including after Perkins’
 21 disqualification. Viewed together—Perkins assertion in April 2024 that it would be providing
 22 Morrison & Foerster with internal work product and Morrison & Foerster’s carefully worded
 23 assertion that it had not received communications from Perkins **prior to** August 2024—it appears
 24 likely that Perkins and Morrison & Foerster collaborated and shared confidential information **after**
 25 Perkins’ disqualification. Morrison & Foerster’s most recent actions in this case reasonably raise
 26 further suspicion. On May 1, 2025, Morrison & Foerster filed an Administrative Motion Seeking
 27 a Status Conference that—as FaceTec noted in its response to that request—seemed an obvious
 28 attempt by Jumio to cut short FaceTec’s ability to fully brief the significant issues raised by the

1 improper collaboration between Perkins and Morrison & Foerster. FaceTec opposed that
 2 Administrative Motion on May 5, 2025, by, *inter alia*, informing the Court that the issues raised
 3 by Morrison & Foerster were critical, could not be resolved through the Court's abbreviated
 4 administrative motion procedures, and should be addressed by a properly noticed motion—with
 5 which the Court agreed. (ECF Nos. 101, 102.)

6 That Perkins and Morrison & Foerster appear to be improperly skirting the Court's Order
 7 disqualifying Perkins evinces why courts vicariously disqualify co-counsel: sharing of information
 8 between firms raises the significant risk that FaceTec's confidential information will be disclosed,
 9 inadvertently or otherwise. In fact, Perkins' failure to file a withdrawal from the case after being
 10 disqualified by this Court only heightens this concern—why would Perkins not withdraw
 11 immediately after being disqualified other than to improperly coordinate with Morrison & Foerster
 12 under cover of attorney-client privilege as co-counsel? Consistent with the concerns voiced by
 13 *Pound* and related decisions, FaceTec has no ability to monitor or prevent impermissible
 14 coordination and sharing of tainted work product between Perkins and Morrison & Foerster as co-
 15 counsel. This raises a significant appearance of impropriety and is fundamentally unfair to
 16 FaceTec as a former client. The ambiguous responses of both Perkins and Morrison & Foerster to
 17 FaceTec's requests for assurances of compliance with the Court's order only underscores the
 18 concerns expressed by the courts in case law based on *Pound*.

19 Perkins must therefore be prohibited from providing new counsel—which cannot and
 20 should not be Morrison & Foerster—with attorney work product, including prior art search results
 21 and other improper materials, which threaten to further spread the taint that led to the firm's
 22 disqualification. Perkins has been ***disqualified*** and—as a result—should not be doing ***any*** further
 23 work on this matter, including ***any*** work coordinating with replacement counsel. Proceeding
 24 otherwise simply ignores the taint that led to disqualification in the first place.

25 **III. CONCLUSION**

26 For the reasons set forth above, permitting Jumio to rely on Morrison & Foerster as the
 27 “new” counsel required by the Court's Order is at odds with the obligation to protect a former
 28 client's confidences from inadvertent disclosure, and thus FaceTec respectfully requests that the

1 Court clarify that former co-counsel Morrison & Foerster is not “new” counsel for purposes of the
2 Court’s March 28, 2025 Order, that the Court’s disqualification order extends also to Morrison &
3 Foerster, and that neither Perkins nor Morrison & Foerster shall collaborate with Jumio’s “new”
4 counsel in relation to this litigation, including providing any non-public or provide confidential
5 work product to such counsel.

6

7 Dated: May 13, 2025

ONE LLP

8

9 By: /s/ Taylor C. Foss

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